REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register:	21 November 1995
Name of applicant/court:	Stephen Bell
Applicant to the Labelling Body:	Not Applicable
Title of Publication:	Untitled
Other Known Titles:	Usenet Alt.Sex.Stories (Processed)
Director:	Not Applicable
Producer:	Not Applicable
Publisher:	Not Applicable
Author:	Not Applicable
Format:	Computer Disk 3 1/2"
Country of Origin:	Not Applicable
Language:	English

Components of film originally examined: Not Applicable.

Feature: Running time:

Trailers: Running time:

Total Running time:

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reasons(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

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Classification Decision:

Objectionable.

Display conditions:

Not Applicable.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on: Not Applicable.

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The publication is dominated by stories which provide sexually explicit and detailed descriptions of sexual conduct with and by children and young persons, written in a manner intended for the sexual arousal of the reader. The remainder of the stories are similarly intended for sexual arousal. In view of this, the publication promotes the exploitation of children and young persons for sexual purposes.

The submitter has said that the publication is intended for his personal use, and for use with respect to his professional interests in censorship of computer networks and bulletin-board systems. The Classification Office notes his right under Section 14 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (NZBR Act) to “the freedom to seek, receive and impart information and opinions of any kind in any form.” Under Section 5 of the NZBR Act, this freedom is subject “only to such reasonable limits prescribed by law as can be demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society.” Under Section 3(2) of the Act, publications which promote or support, or tend to promote or support, the exploitation of children, or young persons, or both, for sexual purposes are deemed objectionable. In considering Section 6 of the NZBR Act, the Classification Office notes that it is not possible to give Section 3(2) of the Act an interpretation consistent with the freedoms set out in Section 14 of the NZBR Act. Therefore, the publication is classified as objectionable.

OFLC Ref: 9400943